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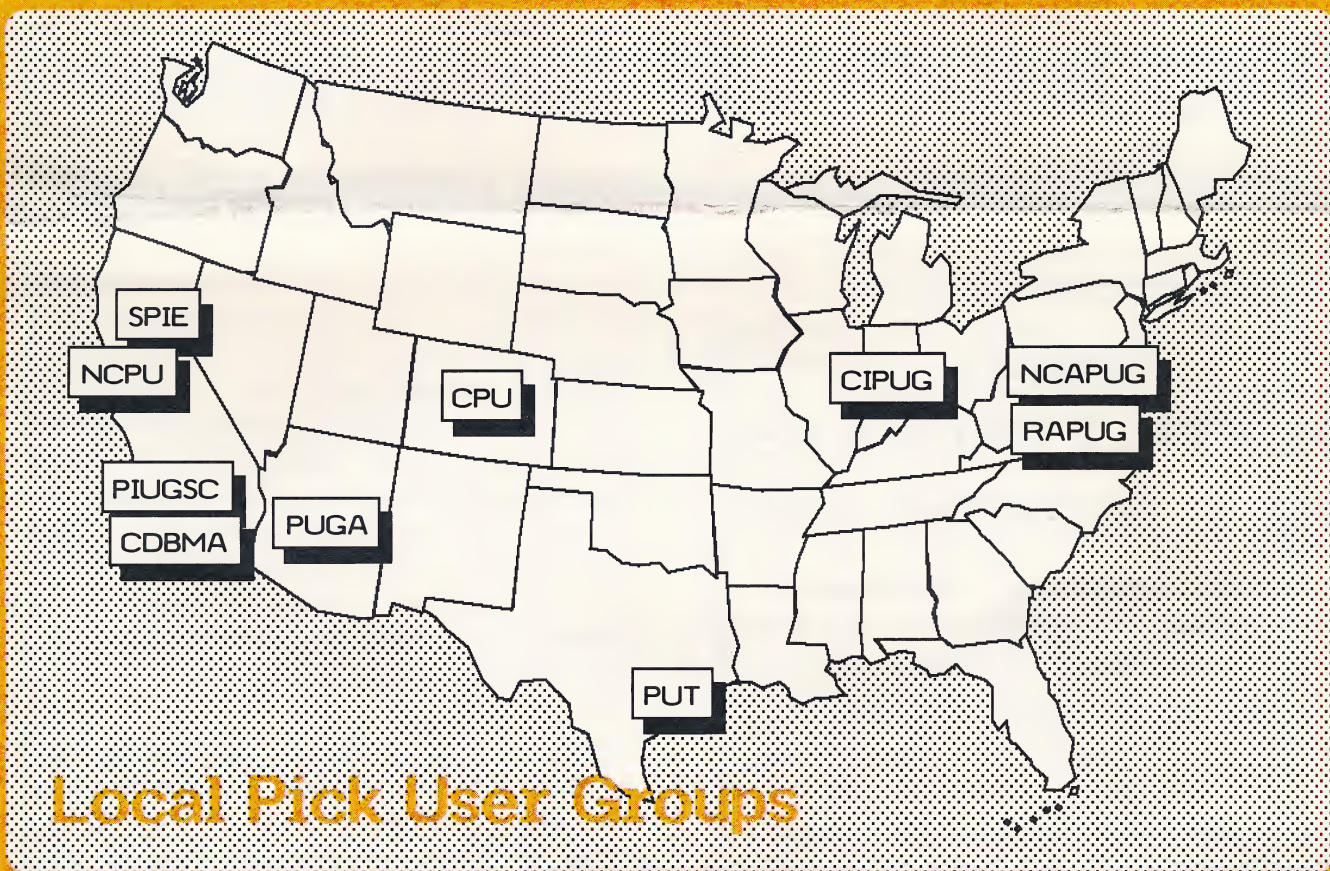
PRAGMA's

PRODUCT PROFILES

News And Information For Pick™ Operating System Users

Issue Number 6

September 1984



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Latest Reports From Local User Groups

Sierra Nevada: The Sierra Pick Information Exchange (SPIE) is a newly formed group that hosted twenty-one Pick users at its recent inaugural meeting and which now includes fifteen paid members, a count estimated to be one-fourth of the total Pick users in their area. SPIE sessions are held the second Tuesday of each month at the Capitol Plaza Holiday Inn in Sacramento. The July meeting featured a presentation by Lisa Levsen of Cornnuts, who discussed preventive maintenance that can be done by the user (versus the responsibilities of the customer engineer). The August meeting included a demonstration of word processing software by John Treankler of Jet Software, using a Zebra 2500 loaned to the group by Lee Eschen. Membership is \$35 and dinner meetings are then \$15 each. Money should be sent to Treasurer Mike Rodriguez at 430 35th Street, Sacramento, CA 95816, while newsletter inquiries should go to Secretary Evelyn Williams, 6216 Templeton Drive, Carmichael, Ca 95608.

Indiana: We have yet to see a newsletter from the Central Indiana Pick Users Group, but we did recently receive a press release stating that this group will be in Booth 535-6 at the Third Annual Indiana Computer Expo, September 27-28th. For more information about the Central Indiana Pick Users, write to President Len McFarling, The Addage Group, Box 1481, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

Texas: The Pick Users of Texas are based in Houston and have enjoyed an attendance of over forty members at each of their first three meetings. This group gathers together on the third Tuesday of each month, and each meeting consists of a hardware or software demonstration during a cocktail hour, followed by a guest speaker. The original gathering in May featured Don Walter describing "What's New With Ultimate", while the June meeting offered Danny Walker of Pandemic Systems

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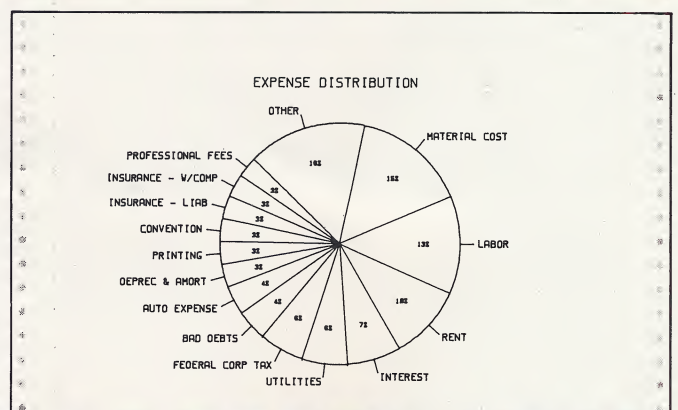
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SALES STATEMENT
200-100-000-100

	JAN 1983	FEB 1983	MAR 1983	APR 1983	MAY 1983	JUN 1983	JUL 1983	AUG 1983	SEP 1983	OCT 1983	NOV 1983	DEC 1983
SALES												
PROJECT SALES	8,400.00	15,000.00	4,500.00	5,000.00	3,000.00	4,500.00	5,000.00	3,000.00	4,000.00	5,500.00	5,000.00	1,000.00
TICKET SALES	8,000.00	3,000.00	2,500.00	3,000.00	1,000.00	3,500.00	3,000.00	2,000.00	3,000.00	4,000.00	4,500.00	4,500.00
TOTAL SALES	16,400.00	18,000.00	7,000.00	8,000.00	4,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	5,000.00	7,000.00	9,500.00	9,500.00	5,500.00
MATERIAL COST	2,400.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,400.00	1,600.00	2,400.00	1,800.00	2,700.00	2,200.00	2,500.00	2,400.00	2,400.00
POSTING	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
NATL EXPENSE	452.00	452.00	452.00	452.00	452.00	452.00	452.00	452.00	452.00	452.00	452.00	452.00
PROFESSOR FEES	112.00	352.00	716.00	716.00	1,432.00	1,432.00	1,432.00	1,432.00	1,432.00	1,432.00	1,432.00	1,432.00
PRINTING	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LABOR	2,000.00	2,100.00	1,500.00	1,600.00	1,000.00	1,400.00	1,300.00	1,600.00	1,500.00	1,800.00	1,700.00	1,600.00
PROG FEES	212.00	212.00	212.00	212.00	212.00	212.00	212.00	212.00	212.00	212.00	212.00	212.00
INSURANCE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
DEPRECIATION	122.00	122.00	122.00	122.00	122.00	122.00	122.00	122.00	122.00	122.00	122.00	122.00
PROFESSOR HONOR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
COMPUTATION	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
INTEREST	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
RENT	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
SERVICE CHARGES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROFESSOR FEES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROFESSOR HONOR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
UTILITIES	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00	450.00
DEPRECIATION	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PROFESSOR FEES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	8,676.00	9,442.00	5,562.00	5,180.00	5,450.00	5,502.00	5,742.00	5,952.00	5,912.00	6,272.00	6,182.00	5,612.00
GRAND PROFIT (LOSS)	7,724.00	8,558.00	1,438.00	2,820.00	2,400.00	2,498.00	2,258.00	1,048.00	1,088.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	0.00



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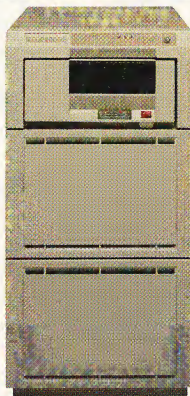


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discussing the advanced use of English, along with a technical session by Rick Bawcum of BayData Concepts demonstrating the Cosmos Revelation package using both a floppy-based machine and a hard disk system. The presentation in July by Gary Brenkman of General Automation had the formidable title "Local Area Networking and Intermachine Communications", and the topic of environmental problems such as power fluctuations, static electricity, heat and dust was covered in August by a representative from the local power company. The theme at this month's meeting will be internal and external system security. Two samples of the group's newsletter that we received included some interesting submittals, such as crossword puzzles designed for Pick enthusiasts and a COBOL (!) program for printing spooler tapes (for sites that also have non-Pick mainframes and want to make better

use of any idle printer time). President Michael Ott recently wrote and mentioned he would like to share ideas with anyone interested in discussing their experiences (both problems and successes) in running a users group. He can be reached by writing to Pick Users of Texas, in care of Misuma Inc., 11500 Kilburn, Houston, TX 77055 or by calling 713-686-8692.

Colorado: The Colorado Pick Users (CPU) have been on vacation for the summer, and skipped all meetings for July and August. Plans for the fall kickoff meeting have not been fully revealed, but we've been told it will be held in an unusual location, will feature some impressive computing machinery, and the technical session will deal with "an old enemy". Other news is that the group has decided to begin renting its mailing list for a \$50 charge. For more information

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about mailings or becoming a member of the CPU, contact Secretary Bill Ehler by calling 303-773-1424 or writing to Box 3154, Denver, CO 80201.

Washington, DC: Before taking the month of August off, the National Capital Area Pick Users Group (NCAPUG) gathered in July for a demonstration of some office automation software by KTS Business Systems of Ontario. The package is bundled with the ADDS Mentor system and is also available on other Pick machines. Meetings resume this month, when Altos Computer will be featured. For more information about the NCAPUG, call Stan Seidlitz at 703-354-4711 or write to 1350 Beverly Road, Suite 115-241, McLean, VA 22101.

Northern California: In July, the Northern California Pick Users (NCPU) hosted Dennis Gallagher of Pick Systems, who gave a presentation describing the Pick IBM PC-XT implementation. The new NCPU bulletin

board system was demonstrated on an XT, and the group is now trying to acquire a PC or its equivalent along with a modem so the bulletin board can permanently operate. Last month's meeting featured General Automation and their local area network for their Zebra line, along with Microdata's M1000 product (which is based on a microcomputer by Convergent Technologies). This month's gathering in San Mateo will include phone company representatives with information on ordering and maintaining dedicated and voice-grade phone lines, and the October meeting is scheduled to feature a panel presentation on office automation. For more information about the NCPU, write to Secretary Jerry Robinson at Box 6759, Oakland, CA 94110 or call 415-632-0977.

Southern California: Users wishing to learn more about the Pick-style system called Information, which is available on Prime machines, might want to attend the third annual conference of the Prime Information User Group of Southern California, which will be held October 25th in Marina del Rey. The pre-registration fee is \$75 (\$90 after October 1st) and includes breakfast, lunch and printed materials. There will be speakers and three presentations at each of three sessions during the one day event. For more information on the conference, call Roy Wagner at 213-832-3361, or write to Box 231, San Pedro, CA 90733. The user group's general mailing address is Box 581, Brea, CA 92621. Also of interest to Pick users in that part of the state is the California Data Base Management Association (CDBMA). Their July Hawaiian luau featured a technical session demonstrating the Jet word processor running on Climax hardware, while Compu-Sheet was the subject of the August session, followed by a presentation on new General Automation products. This month's meeting is scheduled to be held at Dana Point, and the October gathering will be in San Diego. For more information about the CDBMA and their monthly activities, contact member Willie Timmons in care of Data Cache, 7822 Convoy Court, San Diego, CA 92111 or telephone 619-292-4707.

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Pragma #2, November 1982: We Have Liftoff • A Modulo Setting Program • Black Box Formatting • TRIM, DELIM and PROFILE Utilities • SYSMAP, A Cross-Reference System: File Format Input • Gallinzi Hamburg User Profile • LOOP vs. LOCATE Benchmarks • 25 Wish List Items • An Introduction to ENGLISH: Jargon • Proc Conversions • VANILLA, The No-Frills Manufacturing System: Bill of Material Input • 14 Queries • The Trouble Tree • 2 Letters • A Switchbox for 32 Ports • Security and the DATA/BASIC(TM) Programmer • The Cookie Game • Some New Subscribers.

Pragma #3, February 1983: Is Pragma a Rare Medium, Well Done? • Edit Aides • A Proc for Cross-Referencing Q-Pointers • SYSMAP, A Cross-Reference System: Remaining File Input • Rainbow Natural Foods User Profile • More BASIC Benchmark Comparisons • Justifying Ragged Output • 13 Wish List Items • Generating Monthly Column Headings • VANILLA, The No-Frills Manufacturing System: Purchasing • 5 Queries • An Introduction to ENGLISH: More Commands • Shared Site Checklist • Converting Point to Programs • 3 Letters • Generating Blank Forms • Animal, A Game that Learns • More New Subscribers.

Pragma #4, May 1983: Survey Says... • Pacific Valley Bank User Profile • SYSMAP, A Cross-Reference System: Dicts and Procs • Uncompiling: Unassembling Stack Code • Left vs. Right Justification Benchmarks • 4 Wish List Items • A Comparison of BASIC Implementations • More New Subscribers • An Undocumented Editor Capability • 3 Local User Group Reports • Avoiding Saved Lists with PQ-RESELECT • Self-Documenting Reports • A Query • A Survey of Hardware that Supports Pick-Style Software • Printer Trade-Offs • An Introduction to ENGLISH: Finding files • A Letter • VANILLA, The No-Frills Manufacturing System: Purchase Order Entry • The Suot! Game.

Pragma #5, August 1983: Happy Birthday! • Interactive Systems Producer Profile • Uncompiling: Regenerating Source Code • A Day of Revelation • IBM Personal Computer vs. Microdata(TM) Reality® Benchmarks • VANILLA, The No-Frills Manufacturing System: Receiving • 3 Wish List Items • An Introduction to ENGLISH: Being Choosy • Converting Manual Point to Programs • 6 Local User Group Reports • More New Subscribers • A Program that Reports File Pointer Locations • Boiler Plate Processing with Runoff(TM) • A New Query and an Old Query Answered • SYSMAP, A Cross-Reference System: Automation • Tape Types • 6 Letters • Permuted Index to the First Four Issues of Pragma • Amazing, a Maze Game.

Pragma #6, November 1983: Pick Pie Pictured • The Ubiquitous POINTER-FILE • Uncompiling: Resolving Labels • An Introduction to ENGLISH: Syntax Overview • AccuSoft Producer Profile • Rounding Out 7 Benchmarks On 5 Machines • Designing Data Entry Programs • 12 Wish List Items • GET: An Input Processor • 5 Local User Group Reports • More New Subscribers • Do You Know Your Proc Limits? • VANILLA, The No-Frills Manufacturing System: Inspection • 2 Queries • Individual Accounts or Shared Accounts? • Lock Logic Illustrated • Password Protection • Two Undocumented Conversions • A Letter • How AMAZING Works.

Pragma #7, February 1984: More New Subscribers • A New Machine Visits Pragma • Bantam Hardware Overview • Suppressing LOCKED Clauses • An Introduction to ENGLISH: WITH, BY and TOTAL • Bantam Producer Profile • VANILLA, The No-Frills Manufacturing System: Disposition • A Bantam Diary • New Benchmark Timings For 8 More Machines • 6 Local User Group Reports • GET: Source Code • A Preprocessor for Symbolic Statement Labels • 2 Wish List Items • 3 Queries • Bantam Software Overview • A Letter • The Slide Game.

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Arizona: The last report we have from the Pick Users Group of Arizona describes their August meeting, which included a comparison of the Mentor and Zebra operating systems. The group is now looking for speakers and for topics for technical sessions. If you have any suggestions, or would like to volunteer, or need more information about this group, call 602-323-7500 or write to Secretary Jodi Hilgenberg at Communication Skill Builders, Box 42050, Tucson, AZ 85733.

Virginia: The Richmond Area Pick User Group (RAPUG) reported a count of 41 Pick users at their first meeting back in June. Their second meeting in July included a demonstration of office automation software, and last month's meeting featured a presentation on file structures, file saves, and the file statistics report. For more information on becoming a RAPUG member, write to Joanna Woodle, MDS Corporation, 905 Southlake Blvd., Richmond, VA 23236 or call 804-794-2818. Δ

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Articles About Pick Coming Up In *Byte*

We've been told that the theme of the upcoming October issue of *Byte* magazine will be database systems, and that the issue will include the first half of a two part article on the Pick operating system by Rick Cook and John Brandon (creator of Compu-Sheet). The first installment will be subtitled "Information Management" and the as yet untitled second half, due to appear in the November issue, will deal with specifics like BASIC, procs, and the Terminal Control Language. Δ

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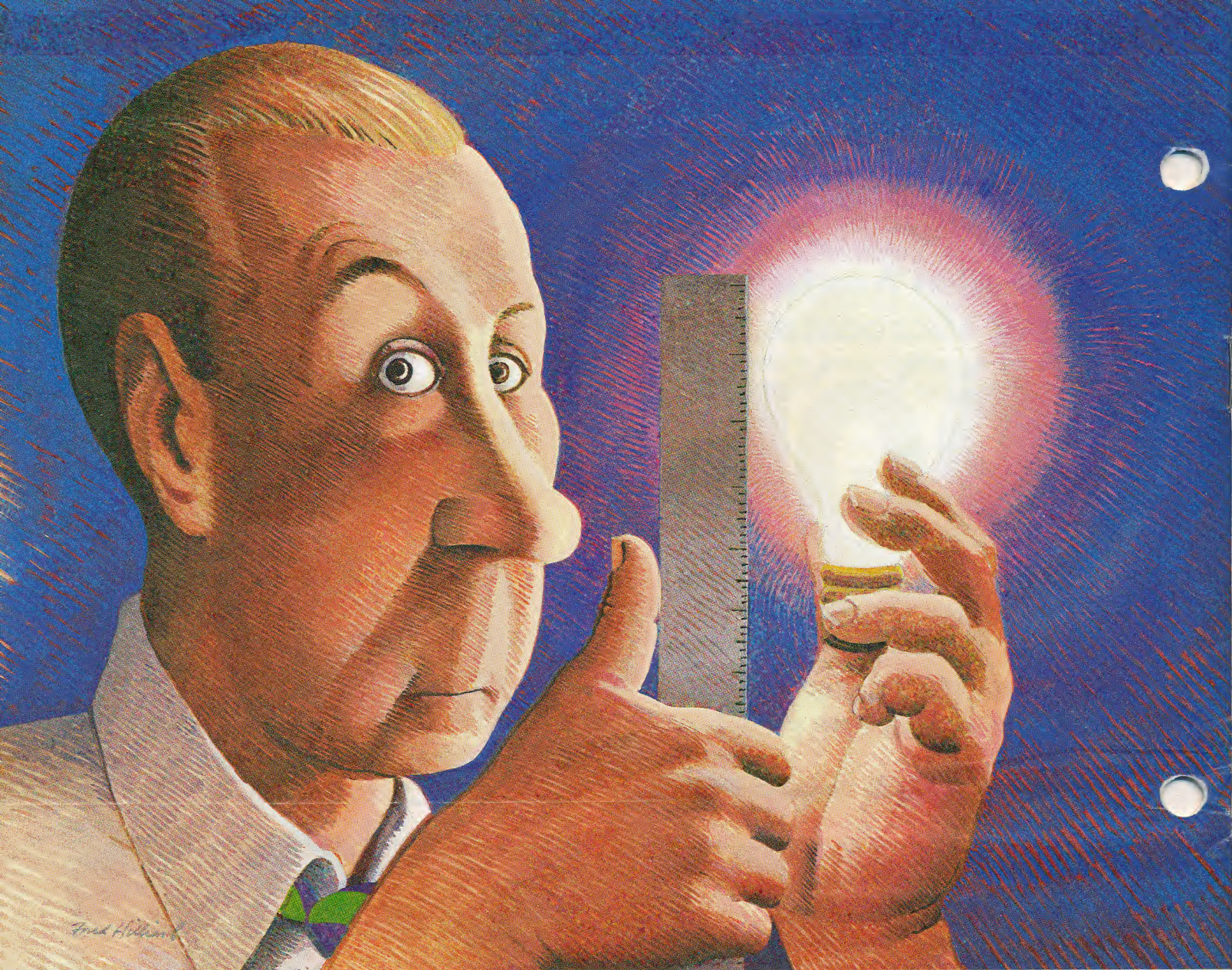
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